(d) 24 officers were arrested, 58 officers were placed under suspension and in the case of one officer, his property was attached.

(e) One officer has gone in appeal to the Court.

Economic Development of North-Eastern Region

2154. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee of Central Ministers for economic development of the North-Eastern region recently decided that time-bound programmes be drawn up for projects.

(b) whether the Chief Ministers of Meghalaya and Tripura desired that top priority should be given for construction of massive rail-cum-road bridges over Brahmaputra; and

(c) what are the details of the pending major development works in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the course of discussions on the Agenda items, Chief Ministers of Meghalaya and Assam requested for early completion of rail-cum-road bridge over Brahmaputra near Jogighopa. Chief Minister, Assam also requested for the construction of another rail-cum road bridge over Brahmaputra near Dibrugarh.

(c) The following are the major projects which are pending/nearing completion in the region:—

(1) Phase-II (50x2 MW) of Kopili Hydro Electric Project in Assam, likely to be completed during current financial year.

(2) Road-bridge over river Brahmaputra near Tezpur proposed to be completed by July, 87.

(3) Doyang Hydro Electric Project in Nagaland—The Preliminary works have aready been taken up.

(4) North Eastern Regional Institute of Science & Technology in Arunachal Pradesh has already been set up. First course will commence this year.

(5) Ranganadi Hydro Electric Project in Arunachal Pradesh and Rail-cum-road bridge over river Brahmaputra near Jogighopa are other major schemes which are being taken up during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Involvement of a Travel Agency in Illegal Migration and Smuggling Ring

2155. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Delhi-based Travel Agency was responsible for illegal migration and for operating a smuggling ring in North America;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any action has been taken against the Travel Agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following two agencies have come to the notice of Delhi Police:—

(i) Afrik Travels, Connaught Place, New Delhi.

(ii) Concord Travels, Connaught Place, New Delhi.

(c) A case u/s 420/468/471/120-B IPC was registered at PS Connaught Place, New Delhi and Afrik Singh and Bhupinder Singh, proprietors of the two agencies, arrested.